

5.3 SURVEY-SPECIFIC QUERIES

Introduction

Option 2 from the QUERIES button on the TOOLS menu is the Survey-specific Queries option. This option, which is also known as “canned queries,” allows you to view, edit, or run programs and queries specifically written for your survey. Survey-specific queries are written by a subject matter analyst or programmer and stored in the StEPS Special Programs Library (SPRGLIB). Such queries are created when 1) the query or program relates only to the one survey, and 2) it is evident that the query or program will be used repeatedly.

In some cases, frame applications are also provided. Frame applications are screens written in SAS that prompt you to enter certain information. They provide a point-and-click approach to running various survey-specific programs.

Accessing the Screen

- Click on the TOOLS button from the StEPS Main Menu.
- Click on the QUERIES button from the Tools Menu.
- From the Queries pop-up menu, select Option 2: “Survey-specific Queries” to display the following:

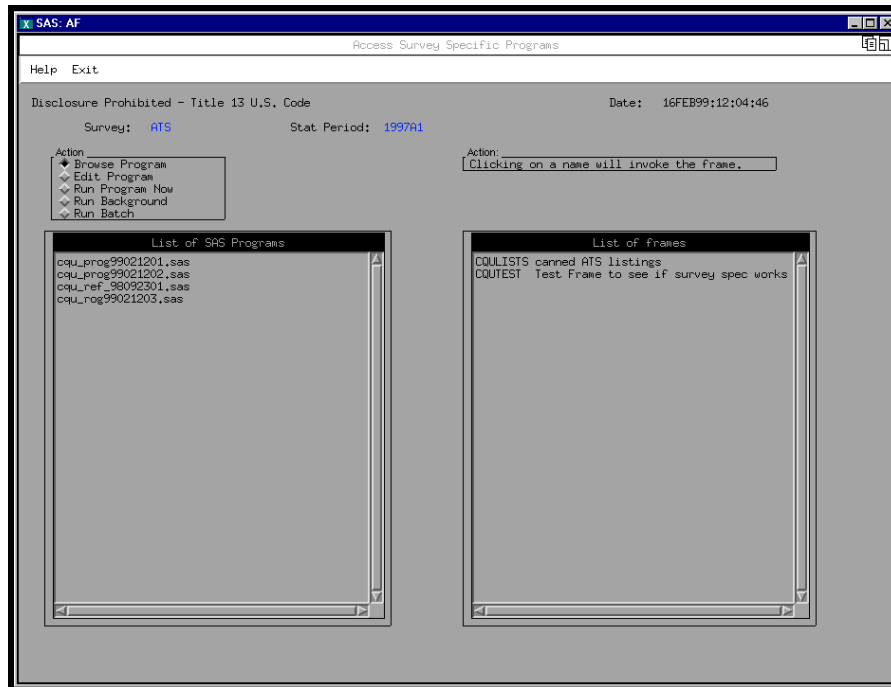


Figure 5.3 Survey-specific Queries Screen

Screen Features

The box on the left-hand side of the screen lists the SAS programs available for your survey. You can select a program by clicking in it. The box above it, labeled “Action” lists the actions you can take on the selected program. The box on the right, labeled “List of Frames,” lists available programs that have user input screens, called “frames.” You click on a name to run.

5.3.1 SAS PROGRAMS

- Survey-specific programs, if they exist for your survey, are displayed in the “List of SAS Programs” box on the left side of the screen. In order for programs to display, they must:
 1. Be stored in the special programs library (SPRGLIB) for the selected survey, and
 2. Have “cqu” (“cqu” designates a canned query) as the first three characters of the program name.
- Programs may be placed directly into the SPRGLIB library by a subject-matter programmer or you may use the “Save Generated Code” option in the Listings Module (see Chapter 5.4) to save a specific listing request that you plan to use repeatedly.

- For each program listed, you may perform one of the following actions:

1. Browse the program
2. Edit the program
3. Run the program now, in background, or in batch

Each of these actions is described in detail below.

5.3.1.1 BROWSE PROGRAM

To view an existing program:

- Select the "Browse Program" option from the Action box.
- Click on the name of the program that you want to view.
- The program selected will display:

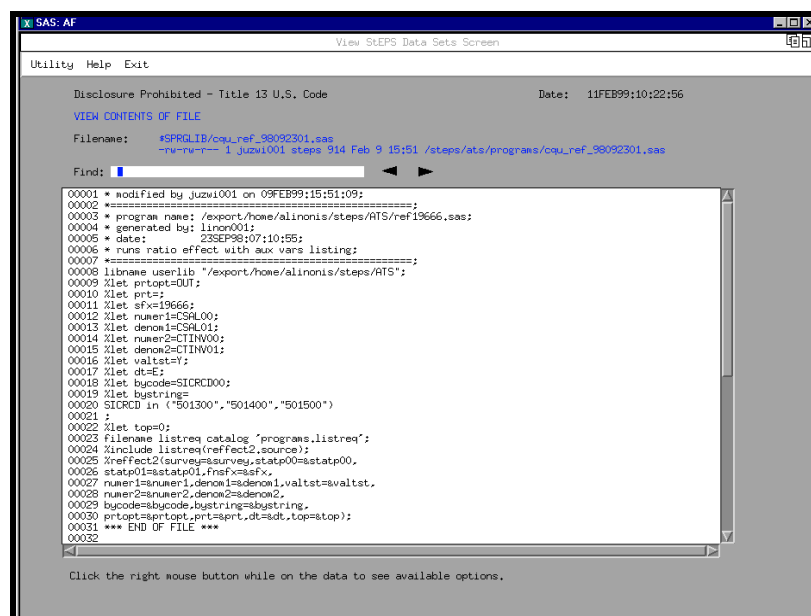


Figure 5.3.1.1 View Contents of File - Browse Option

1. The name of the program is displayed in the top portion of the screen as the "Filename".
2. To find a specific string (word, phrase, partial word or phrase) within the displayed

program, enter the string in the "FIND" field.

- a. To search for the string in the forward direction, press the <Enter> key or click the forward arrow ('➤').
 - b. To search for the string in the backward direction, click the back arrow.
 - c. If the string you entered is not found in the program, the following message will display: "No matches found for your search string."
3. Use the UTILITIES pmenu option to access the first line ("Top") or the last line ("Bottom") of the program.
 4. To print the program, position the cursor in the display box and click the right mouse button. Select the "Print" option. The default for printing is portrait orientation on standard letter-size paper. To change this default, click the right mouse button and select the "Print Set Up" option. This option will ask you to specify the printer you are using. This screen also has an "Options" button you click to reach a screen that allows you to change paper size and/or orientation. The "Print Preview" option on the right-click menu is useful if you are going to print a large program and you want to verify that your printing options are set correctly.
 5. Select "Exit" from the EXIT pmenu or press 'F3' to return to the "Survey-specific Queries" screen.

5.3.1.2 EDIT PROGRAM

NOTE: You must have MGMTPRIV = 'P' to edit an existing program.

To edit an existing program:

- Select the "Edit Program" option from the Action box.
- Click on the name of the program you want to edit.
- The program selected will display:

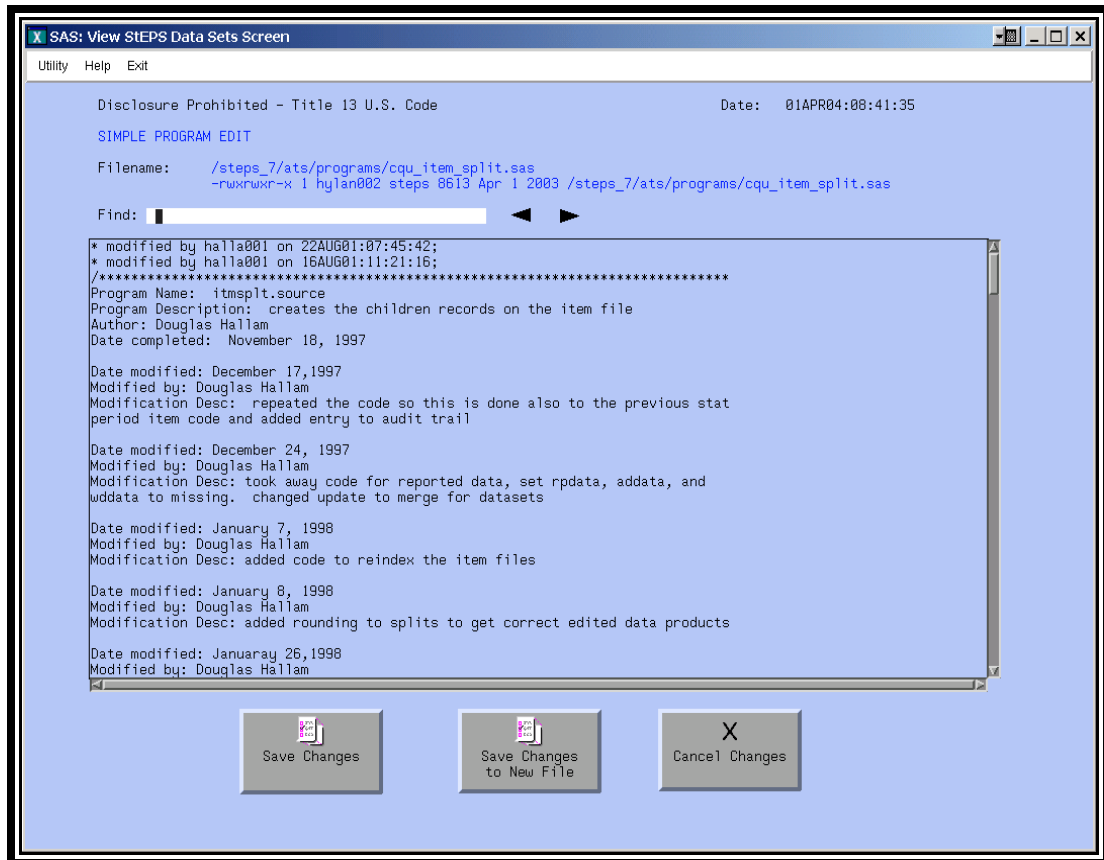


Figure 5.3.1.2 Simple Program Edit Screen - Edit Option

1. “Filename” displays the name of the program.
2. To edit the program, first click inside the box. Then position the cursor to the point where you want to make changes and click again. Enter the changes.
 - a. Save your changes to the current file by clicking on the “Save Changes” button located at the bottom of the screen. The changes you have made will overwrite the previous program. A note will automatically be generated, documenting your username and the date of the change. This note will appear at the beginning of the program.
 - b. To save your changes without overwriting the current program, click on the “Save Changes to New File” button. A screen will appear asking you for a name for your new program
 - c. Use the “Cancel Changes” button to undo your changes. The original version of the program will display.
3. To find a specific string (word, phrase, or partial word or phrase) within the displayed program, enter the string in the "FIND" field.

- a. To search for the string in the forward direction, press the <Enter> key or click the forward arrow (‘➤’).
 - b. To search for the string in the backward direction, click the back arrow.
 - c. If the string you entered is not found in the program, the following message will display: “No matches found for your search string.”
4. Use the UTILITIES pmenu option to access the first line (“Top”) or the last line (“Bottom”) of the program.
 5. Select “Exit” from the EXIT pmenu or press ‘F3’ to return to the “Survey-specific Queries” screen.

5.3.1.3 RUN PROGRAM

NOTE: You must have MGMTPRIV = “U” OR “P” to run a query program.

You can run a selected program in one of three ways:

- Now
- In background
- In batch

1. Run Program Now

- To run a program immediately:
 1. Select the “Run Program Now” option from the Action box
 2. Click on the name of the program you want to run.
- When you have submitted the program, a message will display, indicating that the program is running: “NOTE: Processing statements in SUBMIT block.”
- Once the program has finished executing, the log file will display.
- When you choose the “Run Program Now” option, the program will occupy your StEPS session until the run has been completed. You will **NOT** be able to perform other tasks in StEPS until the program has finished executing.

2. Run Program in Background

- To run a program in background:

1. Select the “Run Background” option from the Action box
 2. Click on the name of the program you want to run.
- This option runs the selected program immediately, but “in the background” (or behind the scenes). When you submit the program, a message will display to indicate this:



Figure 5.3.1.3a Submitted to Background

Click “OK” to clear this box and return to the “Survey-specific Queries” screen.

- Unlike the “Run Program Now” option, if you run the program in “background”, you can continue working in StEPS while the program is running.
3. Run Program in Batch
 - To submit a program to run at a specified time:
 1. Select the “Run Batch” option from the Action box
 2. Click on the name of the program you want to run.
 - After you have selected the program, choose the starting time for the program to run. You may choose to have the program run immediately, at noon today, or at any hour from 5:00 pm today through 2:00 am tomorrow.

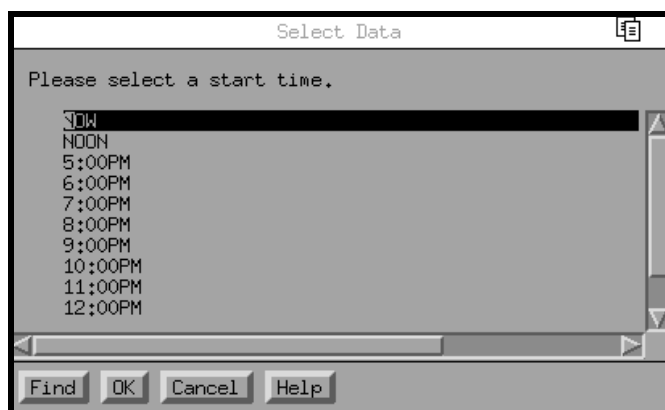


Figure 5.3.1.3b Select Program Start Time

- After making a selection, a confirmation window will display to verify the time of the batch run:

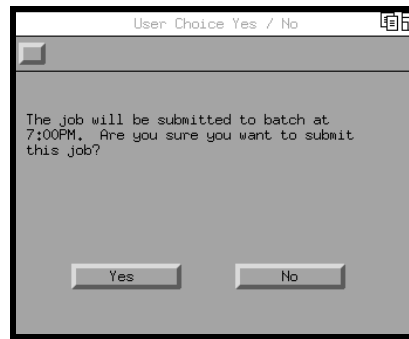


Figure 5.3.1.3c Confirm Batch Submission

1. To submit the program to run, click “Yes”. A message will display, confirming the scheduled run.
 2. To cancel your selection, click “No”. A message will display, indicating that the program will not be submitted.
- Like the “Run Background” option, programs run in batch allow you to continue working in StEPS while the program is executing.

NOTE: Anytime you run a program, regardless of the run method you choose, a log file will be generated and stored in your HOME directory. If you choose the “Run Program Now” or “Run Background” options, the log file will automatically display when the program has finished executing.

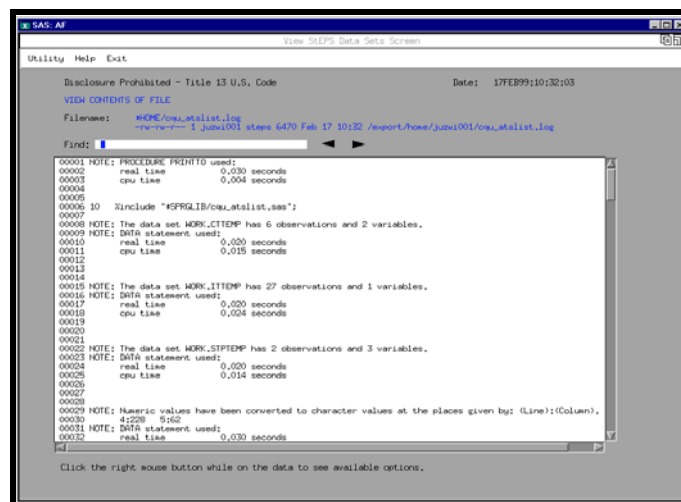


Figure 5.3.1.3d Program Log Display

***** **NOTE** *****

Running a survey-specific program may affect performance for other StEPS users, depending on the actions performed by the program. If you are unsure of the effect that running the program will have on the system, check with your survey supervisor, production programmers, or other users before submitting it.

5.3.2 **FRAME APPLICATIONS**

Frame applications allow you to run survey-specific programs using screens. These screens will be designed outside of StEPS, most likely by a programmer, and will provide you with a point-and-click approach to running a specific program. (There are no modules within StEPS that will allow you to construct and store frame programs.) Once developed, these frame applications must be placed directly in the SPRGLIB library.

- Survey-specific frames (screens), if they exist for your survey, are displayed in the “List of Frames” box on the right side of the screen. Frames must:
 1. Be stored in the special programs library for the selected survey (SPRGLIB) in the SS_TOP catalog, and
 2. Have "cqu" ("cqu" designates a canned query) as the first three characters of the program name.
- Display a frame by clicking on its name in the "List of Frames" box. Once displayed, you will be prompted to enter certain information or select certain options to run the program associated with the frame application.

Since frame applications will vary between programs and surveys, detailed information on using each one cannot be provided here. HELP buttons will be available on individual, survey-specific frames to instruct you on their use.

- Unlike the program code, you may not browse or edit the frame code.

P-Menus

Survey-specific Queries Screen

P-Menu	Options	Function
HELP	WhoamI (F7)	Display user default and systems information
EXIT	StEPS Main Menu (Home) Exit (F3)	Return to StEPS Main Menu Return to Tools Menu

Contents of File Screen/Simple Program Edit Screen

P-Menu	Options	Function
UTILITIES	Top Bottom	Access first line of program Access last line of program
HELP	Survey-Specific Queries Help (F1) WhoamI (F7)	Display HELP information on viewing/editing a survey-specific program Display user default and systems information
EXIT	Exit (F3)	Return to Survey-specific Queries Screen